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IN VACATION.

Tax Reform, but ———.—Schmidt had but recently assumed the office of Collector of Taxes, after a victory on a reform platform, which had in view the collection of all just taxes. He industriously set himself to work reading the various taxation statutes, and as a result many citizens were sent bills for taxes of a nature they had never before received. O'Brien, who lived up on the Heights was the recipient of a bill, which read:

"To keeping two goats two years, \$16.00."

O'Brien called at the office of the Tax Collector, with blood in his eye, and between gulps of exasperated rage, wanted to know why and by what authority he should pay a tax for keeping goats which never did anybody no harm, etc. Schmidt under fire, couldn't well explain in apt language, so he opened the Code and read from Section 1,492 on rate of taxation:

"Paragraph 13. All property abounding and abutting on the public highway, two dollars per front foot."—Central Law Journal.

Overdid the Cure.—Doctor—You admit that I cured you of insomnia, then why don't you pay my bill?

Patient—Sorry, doc, but I sleep so soundly now that my wife goes through my pockets nights and takes every cent.—National Corporation Reporter.

BOOK REVIEWS.

All book reviews are by the Editor in Chief unless otherwise expressly stated.

The American and English Annotated Cases, containing the important cases selected from the current American, Canadian, and English Reports; thoroughly annotated. Editors William M. McKinney and H. Noyes Greene. Volume XXIII. Ann. Cas. 1912 B. Edward Thompson Company, Northport, L. I., N. Y. 1912. Bancroft-Whitney Company, San Francisco. Price \$5.00.

With each successive volume of this valuable work it becomes more and more evident that the editors have determined to keep it up to the high standard that they set in the beginning of the venture. The selection of the cases for publication and annotation show careful discrimination, and its value to the busy lawyer is hard to overestimate. In handling these notes, the introductory should be carefully read, because it explains with lucidity the exact scope of the note, thereby obviating a fruitless search. This is an especially com-

mendable feature of the work. We especially commend the note appended to *Ford v. Board of Car Commissioners*, p. 940, collecting the cases on the vexed question of the right of a landowner to damages upon the voluntary discontinuance of eminent domain proceedings. We look forward with pleasure to the forthcoming of each succeeding volume.

F. D. M.

International Law Digest, by John Bassett Moore, L. L. D., Author of a Treatise on Extradition and Interstate Rendition; of American Notes on the Conflict of Laws; of a History and Digest of International Arbitration; of an exposition of the Spirit and Achievements of American Diplomacy, etc. In eight volumes. Published at the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 1912.

This masterful treatise on the subject of international law, written by one of the greatest living authorities on such questions contains diplomatic discussions, treaties and other international agreements, international awards, the decisions of municipal courts and the writings of jurists, but more especially documents, published and unpublished, issued by presidents and secretaries of State of the United States, the opinions of the attorney generals, and the decisions of courts, state and federal. The book starts with a discussion of the origin and history of international law as a science, in the course of which copious quotations are made from the opinions of the judges of the United States Supreme Court and Chancellor Kent. Nearly two hundred pages are devoted to a discussion of states, their recognition and continuity. Volume one also devotes forty-five pages to the Hawaiian Islands. Seal fisheries in the Behring Sea comes in for a forty page discussion. Volume two discusses national jurisdiction, its legal effects, exemptions from territorial jurisdiction, and the high seas, and in this volume the status of marriage alone under the rules of international law covers sixty pages, containing the opinions of Mr. Webster, Mr. Cushing and many others whose names are well known to every student of American history. Volume three discusses interoceanic communications, nationality, domicile, and passports. Volume four goes fully into a discussion of aliens, extradition and the intercourse of states. Volume five contains consuls, treaties, and conventional and diplomatic relations, the latter topic being taken up alphabetically, beginning with Argentine Republic and ending with Zanzibar. Volume six contains intervention, the Monroe Doctrine, and claims. Volume seven contains modes of redress both amicable and non-amicable, war, maritime law, state courts and procedure therein, contraband, blockade and neutrality. Volume eight is indexical and so complete in this respect that there will not be the least trouble in finding anything contained in the preceding seven volumes. Even a casual glance at these books convinces the reader that they are unquestionably the most valuable collection of books extant on the important and growing subject of international law. Questions of international law are rising almost every day in the state department, and as we write Senator Bacon, of Georgia, is seriously questioning the right of this country to land marines in Nicaragua to protect the lives and property of American citizens. The right of the state department in these premises is discussed by Mr. Moore in § 912 of volume 6. These books are invaluable and cannot be too highly commended.

F. D. M.